

Resources & Everyday Needs

Ranger Base with Earthling

Learning target

Trace an everyday item to natural resources.



Before you begin

Use the reference page and discussion prompts on their own, or open the optional browser adventure. No earlier lesson or physical kit is required.

For online play: use an internet-connected current browser with local storage enabled. Read the three-part Gemling briefing, answer the quick check, and apply the evidence at three checkpoints. Retry feedback supports review; results are not a secure test or gradebook.

Use for teacher-led review, science centers or partner practice. Independent readers may need support with the vocabulary below. The design target is grades 3-5; choose support based on the learner.

Vocabulary and concepts to discuss

Natural resources; raw materials; water, living things, minerals and fuels

Open Ranger Base - direct lesson link

Scan the QR code or use the clickable link. This guide is usable offline; the adventure runs on an external educational website.



Resources & Everyday Needs - key ideas

1. The first clues

Natural resources are materials and sources of energy from nature that people use. Water, forests, minerals and fuels are examples.

2. How the clues connect

Products often combine resources. Paper may come from wood fibers; a metal can comes from material extracted and processed from rock.

3. Our evidence record

Our supply list has a wooden handle, a metal tool and drinking water. Identify each origin before deciding how to use resources carefully.

Keep the science accurate

Renewable does not mean unlimited or impact-free. Use evidence and tradeoffs, not a universally best energy source.

Apply the evidence

Use a specific observation from this lesson to explain one choice. Point to a clue, then connect that clue to a scientific idea.

Curriculum reference: <https://www.nextgenscience.org/dci-arrangement/4-ess3-earth-and-human-activity>

Talk through the evidence

1. Which is a natural resource?

Expected answer: Water

Reasoning: Natural resources are materials and sources of energy from nature that people use. Water, forests, minerals and fuels are examples.

2. What is a common source for paper fibers?

Expected answer: Wood

Reasoning: Products often combine resources. Paper may come from wood fibers; a metal can comes from material extracted and processed from rock.

3. Which supply uses processed mineral resources?

Expected answer: The metal tool

Reasoning: Our supply list has a wooden handle, a metal tool and drinking water. Identify each origin before deciding how to use resources carefully.

4. Why trace a product to its source?

Expected answer: To understand the resources it uses

Reasoning: Products often combine resources. Paper may come from wood fibers; a metal can comes from material extracted and processed from rock.

Guide the discussion

Ask learners to name the evidence that supports their answer. If an answer differs, revisit the matching key idea on page 2 and invite a revised explanation.

Online rewards: this lesson grants one fixed digital Expedition Discovery. Five saved digital Gemling friends become available only after all six distinct subject lessons are complete, in any order. Digital rewards do not establish physical ownership.